

**EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CABINET
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Capital Plaza Tower • 500 Mero Street • Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Phone: (502) 564-4770 • www.education.ky.gov

April 21, 2015

Mr Wayne Benningfield, Superintendent
Todd County Public Schools
205 Airport Road
Elkton, KY 42220

Dear Superintendent Benningfield:

The goal of Kentucky Statewide Consolidated Monitoring (KSCM) is to provide schools and districts feedback and opportunities for continuous improvement wherever possible. The KSCM process creates opportunities for the programs in our schools and districts to look at new ways to collaborate and collectively meet our ultimate goal: increasing student achievement with novice reduction and positioning our students to be college- and career-ready. The team members from your visit have engaged in this collaborative process in order to produce the attached Consolidated Monitoring Report.

During the 2014-15 school year, the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) conducted monitoring in Todd County Public School District. During this process, KDE program staff, utilizing program-specific monitoring tools, conducted on-site visits for the following programs:

- Title I, Part A
- Title II, Part A
- Title III, Part A
- Preschool
- Program Reviews
- Alternative Programs
- Gifted and Talented
- Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA)
- Career and Technical Education
- Professional Growth and Effectiveness System (PGES)

Each program involved in the KSCM has an impact on our goal.

For example, Career and Technical Education (CTE) impacts student success and helps to close the achievement gap by working to make all students career ready. Through the use of a sequence of courses known as career pathways, CTE ensures that all students have equal opportunity to develop skills in demand by local industry.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) supports the vision of KDE by focusing the efforts of the state, districts, schools and teachers toward closing achievement gaps for students with disabilities and ensuring all students reach proficiency, graduate from high school, and successfully transition to a career or postsecondary education.

Title II, Part A focuses on improving teacher and principal quality to ensure that all students have equal access to highly qualified and effective teachers and leaders. Title I programs provide not only funding but guidance on working with disadvantaged students.

Simply by reducing duplication of effort, these programs and the others engaged in consolidated monitoring can work together to achieve more collaboratively than any of them could alone.

This report is the result of what can be best described as a “snapshot” of the district taken during our visit. It begins with identifying “Effective Practices”. These are practices that the individual programs felt were effective, and in some cases innovative. We strongly suggest that the practices identified be submitted to the KDE Best Practices website.

In addition, the monitoring team collectively discussed the findings and concerns of each program to identify what is categorized as “Common Concerns”. This represents a consolidation of findings reported by individual programs that were similar in nature and therefore presented a potential opportunity for collaboration between identified programs. Each of these concerns has been identified by at least two programs. During this collaborative time, team members from all programs discuss suggestions for potential opportunities to work across programs, streamline implementation and increase success within each program. Any suggested or required actions will be addressed by the specified programs.

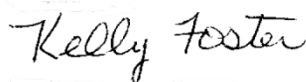
Each program has already provided an individual report as required by federal or state law. Any required actions are monitored by the programs through those individual reports. In order to help the collaborative work of the programs and provide districts with a way to document improvement efforts, we encourage you to utilize the Consolidated School and District Improvement Planning tools in ASSIST.

KDE is striving to provide examples of collaboration and continuous improvement. Our hope is that what we have begun becomes an example that can be replicated across the state.

Each district representative will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the consolidated monitoring process. In the meantime, if you have questions regarding specific program monitoring requirements, please contact the individual program contacts listed in this report. If you have questions concerning the consolidated monitoring process, please contact Claude W. Christian by e-mail at claudewchristian@education.ky.gov or by phone at (502) 564-3791. Information regarding education programs within the state of Kentucky may also be found at www.education.ky.gov.

Thank you for your work in improving Kentucky’s education programs to better provide for our children.

Sincerely,



Kelly Foster, Ed.D.
Associate Commissioner
Office of Next Generation Schools and Districts

KDE Consolidated Monitoring Report

Todd County

KDE Consolidated Monitoring Report

District:	Todd County		
Date(s) of Visit:	February 10, 2015 - February 12, 2015		
Team Leads:			
Title I: Neil Watts		Title II: Jennifer Baker	
Title III: Gary Martin		Program Reviews: Robert Duncan	
IDEA: Laura McCullough		Career and Technical Education: Karla Tipton	
Gifted and Talented: Kathie Anderson		Preschool: Bill Buchanan	
Alternative Programs: Sherri Clusky			

Common Issue 1

Programs Addressed	Alternative Programs	X	Title III		Career and Technical Education	
	IDEA		Title I	X	Title II	X
Preschool	X	Professional Growth and Effectiveness System (PGES)		Program Reviews	X	Gifted and Talented

Common Issue

Reviewing of current policies and plans.

The district and schools are not effectively reviewing current policies and plans. For example, it is noted that many program plans and policies have not met annual review requirements set forth in accordance with federal and state guidelines.

Common Solution(s)/Reccomendation(s)

It is recommended that the district and schools conduct an annual review of the effectiveness of current policies and plans. These reviews should determine if current policies and plans promote best practices, improve academic quality and increase student achievement.

Final Overview

We encourage districts and schools to continuously strive for improvement. Implementation of an annual review of current policies and plans will maximize their effectiveness while ensuring compliance with state and federal program requirements. Todd County leadership has taken a pro-active approach in addressing the evaluations of their policies and plans. Some but not all of the policies and plans noted in the finding section of the program reports have recently been or are currently under review.

All programs monitored have noted the outstanding commitment of Todd County schools in ensuring the success of all students.